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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
MODELING TASK FORCE  
March 26, 2014

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**MINUTES**

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**THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE MODELING TASK FORCE.**

The Modeling Task Force held its meeting at SCAG's Main Office in Los Angeles on March 26, 2014.

**Members Present:**

Tim Byrne (Chair)	SANBAG
Ali Banava	Iteris
Ambarish Mukherjee	LSA
Biling Liu	UCI
Brian Smolke	OCTA
Chris Devlin	Iteris
Eric Bierce	Cambridge Systematics
Fatemeh Ranciefar	Fehr and Peers
Ravi Palakurthy	LSA Associates
Robert Farley	Metro
Sean McAtee	Cambridge Systematics
Steve Greene	AECOM
Tony Petros	LSA
Tony Van Haagen	Caltrans – Dist. 12

**SCAG Staff Present:**

Cheryl Leising (via web-conference)	Hao Cheng
Mike Ainsworth	Mana Sangkapichai
Yongping Zhang	Sreedhar Nambisan
Bayarmaa Aleksandr	Rajeev Seetharam
Ping Chang	Javier Aguilar
Mike Gainor	Simon Choi

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**1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Robert Farley (LACMTA) Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM, and introductions were made.

**2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no public comments.

**3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR**

**3.1 Approval Items**

The January 22, 2014 meeting minutes were approved.

**4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS**

**4.1 Updates on Subregional Modeling Programs**

Robert Farley (Metro) provided an update on the MTA's on-going modeling activities: 1) Continuing efforts to develop the Metro Bike Model; 2) Metro began work on a major model update including new zones, updated networks, validation, and incorporate new on-board survey information; and 3) provided modeling support for MTA's Short-Range Plan.

Brian Smolke (OCTA) mentioned that OCTA is finalizing their TransCad model and providing modeling support for the County Long Range Transportation Plan.

Tony Van Haagen (Caltrans) reported that they are working on the SR-138 Study (between SR-14 and I-5).

Tim Byrne stated that SANBAG is continuing their efforts to update their Model.

Hsi-Hwa Hu (SCAG) provided the group an update on SCAG's ABM Model – SCAG is continuing model estimation and data development efforts.

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**4.2 SCAG's Growth Forecasting Process**

Simon Choi (SCAG) provided the group an overview and status of SCAG's efforts to develop the growth forecast for the 2016 RTP/SCS (2012 base year and 2040 forecast year). The growth forecasting process is being completed in three phases: **Phase 1** – SCAG gathered local land use plans to support development of the Year 2012 Socio-Economic Data (SED) forecast. This effort began in March 2013; **Phase 2** – SCAG developed preliminary existing and future year forecasts and is meeting with local jurisdictions for their review and comment. SCAG is conducting one-on-one meetings with 197 local agencies, currently SCAG has met with 75% of the jurisdictions. Additional meetings will be conducted if necessary to resolve differences, with the review process ending April 2014; **Phase 3** – SCAG will work closely with local jurisdictions to develop future growth scenarios – using SCAG new Scenario Plan Model. The growth scenarios will be used to build SCAG's final growth forecasts for use in developing the 2016 RTP/SCS.

**4.3 Regional Screenline Project**

Tony Petros (LSA) provided an overview of SCAG's Regional Screenline Project. The goal of this project was to collect traffic counts at 35 Screenlines, at Regional Cordon locations, and at selected freight cordons and freight cut-lines. Vehicle classification counts were conducted at 606 arterials for 24 or 48 Hours and at 34 Freeway locations. The counts were collected on Tuesday / Wednesday / Thursday in the Spring and Fall of 2013. Tube counters were utilized to collect 13 Vehicle Classifications on arterial streets and radar and video were used to collect counts on the freeway system. An analysis of the processed count data showed that regionally there was little or no growth in traffic between 2008 and 2012.

For further information or to view the presentation, the PowerPoint presentation is available at:  
<http://www.scag.ca.gov/DataAndTools/Pages/ModelingTaskForce.aspx>

**4.4 LACMTA Bicycle Model**

Robert Farley presented a PowerPoint presentation describing LACMTA's effort to develop a new Bike Model for Los Angeles County. Metro has contracted with Cambridge Systematics to assist in the design and development of the Bike Model. The presentation covered the following topics: Model structure (flow chart), supply side inputs, demand side inputs, path options, the bicycle path choice model, the integration with the motorized travel demand model, model validation, and next steps. Future tasks include: 1) model implementation and refinement; 2) mode choice model refinement; 3) inclusion of recreational trips; and 4) develop a comprehensive data collection program.

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**4.5 SCAG's Transit Network Development Process**

Paul Burke (LACMTA) provided an overview of Metro's TripMaster system and the process to convert the TripMaster database into a TransCad formatted transit network. The primary objective of this methodology is to let someone else maintain and code the transit network ... save time and resources. The methodology takes advantage of the fact that Metro continually updates the transit information in TripMaster. Other advantages are that the TripMaster Database covers 5 counties and that TripMaster matches the Thomas Brothers Map street system. TripMaster however does not include paths between stops, no station attributes, no fare information, and no school trips. Metro and SCAG have developed subroutines to calculate headways, connect stops, add walk links, code fare information, and to convert TripMaster into TransCad format. This process is being utilized by SCAG to develop the Baseyear Transit Network which will be used in the 2012 model validation process and will serve as the basis for developing future year transit networks used in the 2016 RTP/SCS modeling analysis.

For further information or to view the presentation, the PowerPoint presentation is available at:  
<http://www.scag.ca.gov/DataAndTools/Pages/ModelingTaskForce.aspx>

**5.0 CHAIR'S REPORT**

There was no Chair's Report.

**6.0 STAFF REPORT/INFORMATION SHARING**

There was no Staff Report.

**7.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Members were asked to submit suggestion for future agenda items to Mike Ainsworth or Robert Farley.

**8.0 ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm. The next meeting of the Modeling Task Force will be held on May 28, 2014 at the SCAG offices in downtown Los Angeles at 10:00 am.